Message Text

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APPROVED BY IO/SA:DMCCLELLAN
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PAGE 02 STATE 064290

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FOL REPEAT MONTREAL 299 ACTION SECSTATE 15 MAR.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONTREAL 299

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJ: ICAO: SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION

- 1. TO SUPPORT CANDIDACY IN ICAO SYG ELECTION OF MRS. DILLON (WHO IS ON LEAVE DUE TO SERIOUS ILLNESS IN FAMILY) DEPARTMENT DETAILED AN IO OFFICER TO MONTREAL FOR TWO DAYS. FOLLOWING IS REPORT HIS ACTIVITIES AND IMPRESSIONS GAINED FROM VISITS WITH ALTERNATE USREP TO ALL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT IN MONTREAL EXCEPT ONE.
- 2. OFFICER DELIVERED LETTERS FROM FAA ADMINISTRATOR MCLUCAS TO EACH NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE. LETTERS CONTAINED GREETING AND STATED MCLUCAS' SUPPORT FOR DILLON CANDIDACY. LETTERS WERE WELL RECEIVED IN EACH INSTANCE. POINT THAT MRS. DILLON'S CANDIDACY IS SUPPORTED BY FAA HAD GOOD EFFECT AND CAME ACROSS CLEARLY TO LETTER RECIPIENTS.
- 3. MESSAGE WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED IN RETURN IS THAT DELEGATIONS ARE STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTION FROM NATIONAL CAPITALS.

 MANY DELS (ABOUT 10) SAID THEY PERSONALLY RECOMMENDED THEIR COUNTRY ISSUE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THEM TO VOTE FOR MRS. DILLON.

 OTHERS MAY HAVE DONE SAME BUT DID NOT VOLUNTEER SUCH INFORMATION. ONE REPRESENTATIVE (KENYA) FELT SO CERTAIN HIS RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE ADOPTED THAT HE SAID WE COULD COUNT ON HIS VOTE ON ALL BALLOTS. IMPRESSION WAS GAINED THAT THERE IS ADEQUATE SUPPORT IN MONTREAL NOW TO INSURE MRS. DILLON WILL BE AMONG THE THREE CANDIDATES WHOSE NAMES WILL APPEAR ON THE THIRD BALLOT. PROBLEM IS TO INSURE THAT SUPPORT IS MATCHED IN CAPITALS AND THAT IT DOES NOT MELT AWAY BETWEEN NOW AND APRIL 5. AT THE SAME TIME, WE HAVE TO INSURE THAT THE SUPPORT FOR OTHER CANDIDATES WHO ARE ELIMINATED IN EARLY BALLOTING WILL SWING TO DILLON ON LATER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 064290

BALLOTS.

4. MAJOR PROBLEM AREA NOW IS IN CAPITALS. NOTHING SHOULD BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED AT THIS POINT. FOR INSTANCE, LEBANESE REP SAID HE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM BEIRUT AND GOL HAS NOT RPT NOT TAKEN ANY DECISION REGARDING ICAO SYG ELECTION. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT IN CONFUSED BEIRUT SITUATION MORE WORK COULD BE DONE, IF THIS IS PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE.

- 5. BOTH GERMANS AND SWEDES FEEL DILLON'S NATIONALITY MAY WORK AGAINST HER AND NEITHER OF THESE NATIONAL REPS SEEMS WILLING TO GIVE MUCH SUPPORT BECAUSE THEY BOTH OBVIOUSLY WANT TO BACK A WINNER. OF COURSE, IF BOTH WOULD DECIDE TO SUPPORT HER, THEY WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD ASSURING THAT DILLON WILL WIN.
- 6. SWEDISH REP WAS ONLY ONE WHO MENTIONED FACT THAT DILLON IS A WOMAN. HE ASKED IF WE WEREN'T AFRAID THIS WOULD WORK AGAINST HER. REPLY WAS THAT WE HAD CONSIDERED THIS RATHER OBVIOUS FACT AND HAD DECIDED SHE WAS THE BEST CANDIDATE. IF THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD VOTE AGAINST HER FOR THAT REASON THEN THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN DO ABOUT IT. WE ADDED THAT HIS QUERY WAS THE ONLY ONE WE HAVE RECEIVED TO THAT POINT AND WE CAN ONLY ASSUME SEX OF CANDIDATE IS NOT REALLY AN ISSUE IN THIS ELECTION.
- 7. INTERESTING POINT IS THAT MOST DELS BELIEVE FINAL CHOICE WILL BE BETWEEN DILLON, LAMBERT AND LAMI-DOZO. FEW, IF ANY, FEEL THERE WILL BE MUCH SUPPORT EITHER FOR VIVIAN OR BARKAH. SEVERAL SAID BARKAH'S SUPPORT, WHICH WAS STRONG AT FIRST, SEEMS TO BE SLIPPING AWAY. REGARDING VIVIAN, SOME SAID BRITISH SEEM HALFHEARTED IN THEIR ESPOUSAL OF HIS CANDIDACY, OTHERS SAY HE IS NOT A GOOD CANDIDATE.
- 8. COMMENT: AT THIS POINT, OUR MAIN GOAL IS TO INSURE DILLON'S NAME MAKES IT TO THIRD BALLOT (AFTER FIRST BALLOT CANDIDATES WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED AS MANY AS TWO VOTES WILL BE REMOVED, AT END OF SECOND BALLOT THREE NAMES WILL BE SELECTED FOR VOTING ONE WEEK LATER DURING WHICH TIME DELEGATES WILL BE ABLE TO CONFER WITH THEIR CAPITALS.) OF COURSE, SUCCESS IN MAKING THE THIRD BALLOT HAS TO BE FOLLOWED BY WINNING THE ELECTION. THE ONLY MEANS OF DOING THIS IS OBTAINING ALL THE SUPPORT WE CAN FROM EVERY CORNER.

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PAGE 04 STATE 064290

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: NOMINATION, SECRETARY GENERAL, LOBBYING, ELECTION CANDIDATES

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 17 MAR 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE064290

Document Number: 1976STATE064290
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MPEHOYT:BGR Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760100-0500

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760351/aaaabskh.tel Line Count: 157 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN IO

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 29 MAR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: ICAO: SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO, (DILLON, BETTY C)

To: LAGOS MULTIPLE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006